

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
Marshall Space Flight Center, AL 35812



October 24, 2012

Reply to Attn of:

LS01 (KLM)

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

FROM: LS01/Audrey D. Robinson

SUBJECT: Blanket Approval for NASA Employees to Attend the Aerospace Alliance 2012 Fall Summit in New Orleans

In accordance with 5 C.F.R. 2635.204(g)(2) and (3), I make the following determination:

Several NASA employees have been invited to attend the Aerospace Alliance (AA) 2012 Fall Summit in New Orleans sponsored by Alabama Development Office, Enterprise Florida, Louisiana Economic Development, and the Mississippi Development Authority. This event is scheduled for Thursday, October 25, 2012, at the World War II Museum, 945 Magazine Street, New Orleans, LA 70130. The dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.

The AA is a 501(c)(6) private/public organization comprised of state government and corporate members interested in advancing the aerospace and aviation corridor in the Southeastern region of the United States. State members of the AA includes Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Florida.

This event will be a widely-attended gathering of AA members, NASA personnel, state and local elected officials, as well as other community leaders, private industry representatives, and media. The event is valued at \$70.00 per person and approximately 176 people are expected to attend. I find that the event meets the requirements of a "widely attended gathering" as defined in 5 CFR §2635.204(g)(2).

I have determined that free attendance at the above mentioned event is in the interest of the agency because it will further agency programs and operations. The attendance of NASA employees at the event will help to raise NASA's profile with Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Florida state and New Orleans elected officials, governmental, and community leaders, will contribute to community relations, and will support NASA's statutory mandate to disseminate information about its activities. Given the purpose of the event, the broad attendance anticipated, and the reasonable market value of this event, I have determined that the value to the agency in having employees attend this event

outweighs any concern that free attendance may or may appear to improperly influence them in the performance of their duties.

Accordingly, NASA employees that have been invited to attend may accept free attendance at the event. They may also accept invitations for accompanying spouses or guests. NASA employees whose duties may substantially affect the AA, or a majority of its members, are not covered in this determination and should seek a specific determination from this office pursuant to 5 CFR 2635.204(g)(3)(i) regarding their participation in this event.

Neither the Aerospace Alliance, Alabama Development Office, Enterprise Florida, Louisiana Economic Development, nor the Mississippi Development Authority are lobbying organizations and are not registered as such under the Lobbying Disclosure Act.

Questions about this determination may be addressed to Kristine Mackey at 256-544-0011.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Audrey D. Robinson", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Audrey D. Robinson
Chief Counsel